

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. Please amend claims 1-7 and 10-11, and add new claims 12-14 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A file sharing method in a storage system, the storage system having a controller and a plurality of disk drives for sharing a file stored in the storage system, ~~that is~~ and being connected to a first host computer and a second host computer, which uses the first host computer using a first operating system for managing the file first information of a file store location using a first format and first file management information, ~~and that is connected to a~~ the second host computer, ~~which uses~~ using a second operating system for managing the file second information of said file store location using a second format different from said first format and second file management information, ~~and, said file sharing method being used for reading said file, of which information of a file store location is said first information from, said second host computer~~ the storage system storing the first file management information when the file is stored in the storage system, the first file management information including information of a location of a disk area where the file is allocated by the first operating system, the second file management information including information of the location capable of being managed by the second operating system,

said method comprises the steps of:

~~identifying an~~ receiving a host ID of said second host computer; and
~~a type of said second operating system corresponding to said ID~~ determining that the second host computer manages said file;

converting said first file management information ~~of said file store location~~
into said second file management information ~~of said file store location~~; and

reading data corresponding to said file on the basis of said second information
~~of said file store location~~ from said disk drives by the second host computer.

2. (Currently Amended) The file sharing method according to Claim 1, wherein:

said first operating system manages said ~~file store location~~ [[of]] where said
file is allocated on the basis of a block having a first fixed length;

said second operating system manages said ~~file-store~~ location ~~[[of]]~~ where said file is allocated on the basis of a block having a second fixed length that is different from said first fixed length; and

said conversion step converts a block number of a first block included in said first file management information ~~of said file-store location~~ into corresponding said second information ~~of said file-store location~~ according to a ratio of a data length of said first fixed length to a data length of said second fixed length.

3. (Currently Amended) The file sharing method according to Claim 1, wherein:

said second file management information ~~of said file-store location~~, which has been converted by said conversion step, is stored in a cache area in said storage system.

4. (Currently Amended) A storage system that is connected to a first host computer and a second host computer, which uses the first host computer using a first operating system for managing a file a first information of a file-store location using a first format and first file management information, and ~~that is connected to a~~ the second host computer, ~~which uses~~ using a second operating system for managing the file a second information of said file-store location using a second format different from said first format and second file management information, the storage system storing the first file management information when the file is stored in the storage system, the first file management information including information of a location of a disk area where the file is allocated by the first operating system, the second file management information including information of the location capable of being managed by the second operating system, said storage system comprising:

a plurality of disk drives for storing data therein; and

a disk controller comprising an interface for connecting to said first host computer and said second host computer, and an interface for connecting to said plurality of disk drives, wherein:

said disk controller comprises:

a means for ~~identifying an~~ receiving a host ID of said second host computer and ~~a type of said second operating system corresponding to said ID~~ determining that the second host computer manages the file by the second operating system;

means for converting said first file management information ~~of said file store location~~ into said second file management information; and

a means for reading data corresponding to said file on the basis of the second information ~~of said file store location~~ from said disk drives when an access request to access said file is issued from said second host computer.

5. (Currently Amended) The storage system according to Claim 4, wherein:

said means for converting said first file management information ~~of said file store location~~ into said second file management information ~~of said file store location~~ is further for converting a block number of a first block of said first information ~~of said file store location~~ according to a ratio of a data length of a first fixed-length block, which is used when said first operating system manages the ~~stored~~ location of the disk area where said file is allocated, to a data length of a second fixed-length block, which is used when said second operating system manages said ~~file store~~ location of the disk area where said file is allocated.

6. (Currently Amended) The storage system according to Claim 4, wherein:

said second file management information ~~of said file store location~~ in said second format corresponding to said first file management information ~~of said file store location~~ in said first format is held by any one of said plurality of disk drives instead of the disk controller.

7. (Currently Amended) The storage system according to Claim 6, wherein:

a first disk drive and a second disk drive of said plurality of disk drives hold said first file management information ~~of said file store location~~, and said second information ~~of said file store location~~ respectively; and

both of said first disk drive and said second disk drive hold said file.

8. (Previously Presented) The storage system according to Claim 7, wherein:

said disk controller accesses said first disk drive when an access request to access said file is issued from said first host computer; and

said disk controller accesses said second disk drive when an access request to access said file is issued from said second host computer.

9. (Previously Presented) The storage system according to Claim 4, wherein:

said disk controller comprises a means for exclusive control of an access request from said second host computer when said access request to access said file from said second host computer conflicts with an access request to access said file from said first host computer.

10. (Currently Amended) A storage system that is connected to a first host computer and a second host computer, which uses the first host computer using a first operating system for managing a file a first information of a file store location using a first format and first file management information, and that is connected to a the second host computer, which uses using a second operating system for managing the file a second information of said file store location using a second format different from said first format and second file management information, the storage system storing the first file management information when the file is stored in the storage system, the first file management information including information of a location of a disk area where the file is allocated by the first operating system, the second file management information including information of the location capable of being managed by the second operating system, said storage system comprising:

a plurality of disk drives for storing data therein; and

a disk controller comprising an interface for connecting to said first host computer and said second host computer, and an interface for connecting to said plurality of disk drives; wherein:

said disk controller mirrors said file, which is stored in any one of said plurality of disk drives and is managed under said first operating system, in another disk drive of said plurality of disk drives;

said disk controller converts said first file management information ~~of said file store location~~ into a corresponding said second file management information ~~of said file store location~~ to write the corresponding ~~stored location~~ second file management information into said another disk drive; and

said disk controller reads said file from said another disk drive when an access request to access said file is issued from said second host computer.

11. (Currently Amended) The storage system according to Claim 10, wherein:
- said disk controller converts said first file management information ~~of said file store location~~ into said second file management information ~~of said store location~~, according to a ratio of a data length of a first fixed-length block, which is used when said first operating system manages the ~~file-store~~ location ~~[[of]]~~ where said file is allocated, to a data length of a second fixed-length block, which is used when said second operating system manages said ~~file-store~~ location ~~[[of]]~~ where the file is allocated.
12. (New) The file sharing method according to Claim 1, wherein
- the first file management information comprises a block number of a first block and a partition of the location where the file is allocated, and
- the second file management information comprises a block number of a corresponding first block and corresponding partition of the location where the file is allocated, the block number of the corresponding first block and the corresponding partition being manageable by the second operating system.
13. (New) The storage system according to Claim 4, wherein
- the first file management information comprises a block number of a first block and a partition of the location where the file is allocated, and
- the second file management information comprises a block number of a corresponding first block and corresponding partition of the location where the file is allocated, the block number of the corresponding first block and the corresponding partition being manageable by the second operating system.
14. (New) The storage system according to Claim 10, wherein
- the first file management information comprises a block number of a first block and a partition of the location where the file is allocated, and
- the second file management information comprises a block number of a corresponding first block and corresponding partition of the location where the file is allocated, the block number of the corresponding first block and the corresponding partition being manageable by the second operating system.